

House of Representatives for the 117th Congress.

Nominations are now in order.

The Clerk recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES).

Mr. JEFFRIES. Madam Clerk, I rise today at the direction of the House Democratic Caucus, by the vote of that Caucus, to place the name of the Honorable NANCY PELOSI, Representative-elect from the great State of California, by way of Charm City, into nomination for election to the position of Speaker of the United States House of Representatives.

NANCY PELOSI believes in the power of American exceptionalism.

NANCY PELOSI believes in the goodness of the American people.

NANCY PELOSI believes that our diversity is our strength and that our unity is our power.

NANCY PELOSI believes that the House is fundamentally the institution best equipped to reflect the hopes, the dreams, and the aspirations of every-day Americans.

NANCY PELOSI believes that our sacred mission is to continue America's long, necessary, and majestic march toward a more perfect Union.

The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., once observed that the true measure of a leader is not how one fares in moments of comfort or convenience, but how one fares in moments of challenge and controversy. NANCY PELOSI has passed that test with flying colors over and over and over again.

As a result of her tremendous leadership, during a moment of great turbulence, House Democrats ended the longest government shutdown in American history; addressed the humanitarian crisis at the border; negotiated a historic trade agreement that protected good-paying American jobs; held the President accountable because no one is above the law; passed progressive legislation to transform policing in America as part of our effort to deal with systemic racism; ended the egregious practice of surprise billing because healthcare is a right, not simply a privilege; and confronted the once-in-a-century COVID-19 pandemic with a comprehensive, passionate, and continuing congressional response that, at the end of the day, will crush the virus and supercharge our economy.

That is the NANCY PELOSI track record.

NANCY PELOSI is a champion of the children, a defender of the disenfranchised, a voice for the voiceless, a fabulous facilitator, a notorious negotiator, and a legendary legislator for such a time as this.

This is a moment of great challenge here in America, filled with trials and tribulations and a lot of pain and suffering and death. But America is a resilient Nation. House Democrats are a resilient Caucus. NANCY PELOSI is a resilient leader.

Brighter days are ahead in the United States of America. This is a day of great renewal in the House of Rep-

resentatives. This is a day when House Democrats will begin our work with the next President of the United States of America, Joe Biden, and his partner, KAMALA HARRIS, so we can build back better for the people. This is a day when, once again, NANCY D'ALESSANDRO PELOSI will become the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives.

Madam Clerk, I proudly place her name into nomination, and when it is all said and done, history will record that today was a good day.

God bless NANCY PELOSI. God bless the Congress. God bless the United States of America.

The CLERK. The Clerk now recognizes the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Ms. CHENEY).

Ms. CHENEY. Madam Clerk, first of all, let me thank my colleague from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES).

Madam Clerk, I also start by asking all of our colleagues to remember in their thoughts and prayers the family of Luke Letlow, Congressman-elect from Louisiana, who died tragically last week.

We also want to remember our friend and colleague JAMIE RASKIN and pray for his family as they deal with the devastating loss of their son.

We engage in heated exchanges in this body, as we should, but it is well for us always to remember that we are all God's children. Our hearts break when our colleagues and friends are suffering. I am reminded of the words of the 19th century religious scholar who said: I expect to pass through this world but once. If, therefore, there can be any kindness I can show or any good thing I can do my fellow being, let me do it now. Let me not defer nor neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again.

Fine words to guide us as we embark on this Congress.

Madam Clerk, the nominating ceremony looks very different today in this Chamber. Our masks and our distancing requirements are reminders of this pandemic threat that we face and that we must defeat together, but the Congress is also different because of something we all take great pride in.

This body now has more women Members than at any time in our history. Our new Republican women are here to work. They are here to get things done. As we like to say in Wyoming, it is time to cowgirl up.

There is no one in this body more responsible for our tremendous new class of Members, our men and women, than our leader, KEVIN MCCARTHY. Through his tireless work and his efforts to date, we have made historic gains, and we are not done yet.

These gains would not have happened without Leader MCCARTHY's unmatched work ethic, his strategic and tactical skill, and his commitment to our candidates. Nor would they have happened without KEVIN's steadfast commitment to defending our freedom, standing up for our Constitution, and remembering that the work we do in

this Chamber affects American families and workers all across this Nation.

Madam Clerk, it is my high honor today to have the great privilege to nominate the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCARTHY) to lead us in our work as Speaker of the United States House of Representatives.

Leader MCCARTHY is a grandson of a cattle rancher, the son of a firefighter. He grew up in a working-class family. He started and ran his own business, Kevin O's in Bakersfield. He paid his way through college. And he knows firsthand that our small businesses are the backbone of our economy and that government is more often the problem than the solution.

No one has been a greater champion of ensuring that our government is limited, defending the rights of the States and the people in those States, and resisting the urge of some of our colleagues to steal power from the people and give it to the government.

Leader MCCARTHY will always look for ways to work across the aisle. More times than I can count over the last 2 years, he has led us in putting forward proposals, like the Commitment to America, that encapsulate good policy and should be bipartisan. He will continue to do this, but he will never compromise our fundamental rights and freedoms.

Last year, as the threat from the Chinese Communist Party grew and spread, Leader MCCARTHY established the China Task Force and urged Democrats to join us in confronting a grave threat that requires bipartisan solutions. They refused. Nonetheless, the task force he directed published legislative recommendations, two-thirds of which are bipartisan.

Leader MCCARTHY ensured that we were united as we successfully fought the unconstitutional and partisan impeachment effort launched by our Democrat colleagues, and he guided us through the unprecedented challenges of operating in and responding to the global COVID pandemic.

For a real guide as to how things will operate once Leader MCCARTHY is Speaker MCCARTHY, look to the historic productivity we saw the last time Republicans were in charge in the 115th Congress. Leader MCCARTHY led us in repealing regulations, cutting taxes, supporting our veterans, combating opioid addiction and human trafficking, securing our borders, growing our economy, and defending our Nation.

Leader MCCARTHY made sure that we passed on time and at a sufficient level, for the first time in more than a decade, defense appropriations to ensure that we fulfilled our most sacred constitutional duty. As Speaker, that is the kind of record he will deliver on again.

Madam Clerk, as Republicans, we know that the United States Constitution is our sword and our shield. We know that our rights do not come from government; they come from God. We

know that those rights are protected by the exquisite structure designed by our Founding Fathers.

Madam Clerk, over here on this side of the aisle, we are going to continue to call them Founding Fathers, despite the new House rules package. We know that the man to lead us as we confront the important work ahead is our Republican leader, KEVIN MCCARTHY.

Madam Clerk, because he will lead us in fighting for all the people of this great Nation; because he will continue to stand against socialism and will continue to stand against the expansion of government power that strips power from the people and gives it to the government; because he knows that the most important words of our founding document are the first 3 words, "We the people," as chair of the House Republican Conference, I am honored and directed by the vote of that Conference to present for election to the Office of the Speaker of the House of Representatives for the 117th Congress the name of the Honorable KEVIN MCCARTHY, Representative-elect from the State of California.

The CLERK. The names of the Honorable NANCY PELOSI, a Representative-elect from the State of California, and the Honorable KEVIN MCCARTHY, a Representative-elect from the State of California, have been placed in nomination.

Are there further nominations?

There being no further nominations, the Clerk appoints the following tellers:

The gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR);

The gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS);

The gentlewoman from California (Ms. LOFGREN); and

The gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXF).

The tellers will come forward and take their seats at the desk in front of the Speaker's rostrum.

The roll will now be called, and those responding to their names will indicate by surname the nominee of their choosing.

The Reading Clerk will now call the roll.

The tellers having taken their places, the House proceeded to vote for the Speaker.

The following is the result of the vote:

[Roll No. 2]

PELOSI—216

Adams	Boyle, Brendan	Cicilline
Aguilar	F.	Clark (MA)
Allred	Brown	Clarke (NY)
Auchincloss	Brownley	Cleaver
Axne	Bush	Clyburn
Barragán	Bustos	Cohen
Bass	Butterfield	Connolly
Beatty	Carbajal	Cooper
Bera	Cárdenas	Correa
Beyer	Carson	Costa
Bishop (GA)	Cartwright	Courtney
Blumenauer	Case	Craig
Blunt Rochester	Casten	Crist
Bonamici	Castor (FL)	Crow
Bourdeaux	Castro (TX)	Cuellar
Bowman	Chu	Daids (KS)

Davis, Danny K.	Krishnamoorthi	Price (NC)
Dean	Kuster	Quigley
DeFazio	Langevin	Raskin
DeGette	Larsen (WA)	Rice (NY)
DeLauro	Larsen (CT)	Richmond
DelBene	Lawrence	Ross
Delgado	Lawson (FL)	Roybal-Allard
Demings	Lee (CA)	Ruiz
DeSaulnier	Lee (NV)	Ruppersberger
Deutch	Leger Fernandez	Rush
Dingell	Levin (CA)	Ryan
Doggett	Levin (MI)	Sánchez
Doyle, Michael F.	Lieu	Sarbanes
Escobar	Lofgren	Scanlon
Eshoo	Lowenthal	Schakowsky
Españolat	Luria	Schiff
Evans	Lynch	Schneider
Fletcher	Malinowski	Schrader
Foster	Maloney,	Schrier
Frankel, Lois	Carolyn B.	Scott (VA)
Fudge	Maloney, Sean	Scott, David
Gallego	Manning	Sewell
Garamendi	Matsui	Sherman
García (IL)	McBath	Sires
García (TX)	McCollum	Smith (WA)
Gomez	McEachin	Soto
Gonzalez,	McGovern	Speier
Vicente	McNerney	Stanton
Gottheimer	Meeks	Stevens
Green, Al (TX)	Meng	Strickland
Grijalva	Mfume	Suozzi
Haaland	Moore (WI)	Swalwell
Harder (CA)	Morelle	Takano
Hayes	Moulton	Thompson (CA)
Higgins (NY)	Mrvan	Thompson (MS)
Himes	Murphy (FL)	Titus
Horsford	Nadler	Tlaib
Houlihan	Napolitano	Tonko
Hoyer	Neal	Torres (CA)
Huffman	Neguse	Torres (NY)
Jackson Lee	Newman	Trahan
Jacobs (CA)	Norcross	Trone
Jayapal	O'Halleran	Underwood
Jeffries	Ocasio-Cortez	Vargas
Johnson (GA)	Omar	Veasey
Johnson (TX)	Pallone	Vela
Jones	Panetta	Velázquez
Kahele	Pappas	Wasserman
Kaptur	Pascrell	Schultz
Keating	Payne	Waters
Kelly (IL)	Pelosi	Watson Coleman
Khanna	Perlmutter	Welch
Kildee	Peters	Wexton
Kilmer	Phillips	Wild
Kim (NJ)	Pingree	Williams (GA)
Kind	Pocan	Wilson (FL)
Kirkpatrick	Porter	Yarmuth
	Pressley	

MCCARTHY—209

Aderholt	Comer	Graves (MO)
Allen	Crawford	Green (TN)
Amodei	Crenshaw	Greene (GA)
Armstrong	Curtis	Griffith
Arrington	Davidson	Grothman
Babin	Davis, Rodney	Guest
Bacon	DesJarlais	Guthrie
Baird	Diaz-Balart	Hagedorn
Balderson	Donalds	Harris
Banks	Duncan	Harshbarger
Barr	Dunn	Hartzler
Bentz	Emmer	Hern
Bergman	Estes	Herrell
Bice (OK)	Fallon	Herrera Beutler
Biggs	Feenstra	Hice (GA)
Bilirakis	Ferguson	Higgins (LA)
Bishop (NC)	Fischbach	Hill
Boebert	Fitzgerald	Hinson
Bost	Fitzpatrick	Hollingsworth
Brady	Fleischmann	Hudson
Brooks	Fortenberry	Huizenga
Buchanan	Foxx	Issa
Buck	Franklin, C.	Jackson
Bucshon	Scott	Jacobs (NY)
Budd	Fulcher	Johnson (LA)
Burchett	Gaetz	Johnson (OH)
Burgess	Gallagher	Johnson (SD)
Calvert	Garbarino	Jordan
Cammack	García (CA)	Joyce (OH)
Carl	Gibbs	Joyce (PA)
Carter (GA)	Gimenez	Katko
Carter (TX)	Gohmert	Keller
Cawthorn	Gonzales, Tony	Kelly (MS)
Chabot	Gonzalez (OH)	Kelly (PA)
Cheney	Good (VA)	Kim (CA)
Cline	Gooden (TX)	Kinzinger
Cloud	Gosar	Kustoff
Clyde	Granger	LaHood
Cole	Graves (LA)	LaMalfa

Lamborn	Newhouse	Spartz
Latta	Norman	Stauber
LaTurner	Nunes	Steel
Lesko	Obenrolte	Stefanik
Long	Owens	Steil
Loudermilk	Palazzo	Steube
Lucas	Palmer	Stewart
Luetkemeyer	Pence	Stivers
Mace	Perry	Taylor
Malliotakis	Pfuger	Thompson (PA)
Mann	Posey	Tiffany
Massie	Reed	Timmons
Mast	Reschenthaler	Turner
McCarthy	Rice (SC)	Upton
McCaull	Rodgers (WA)	Van Drew
McClain	Rogers (AL)	Van Duyne
McClintock	Rogers (KY)	Wagner
McHenry	Rose	Walberg
McKinley	Rosendale	Walorski
Meijer	Rouzer	Waltz
Meuser	Roy	Weber (TX)
Miller (IL)	Rutherford	Webster (FL)
Miller (WV)	Scalise	Wenstrup
Miller-Meeks	Schweikert	Westerman
Moolenaar	Scott, Austin	Williams (TX)
Mooney	Sessions	Wilson (SC)
Moore (AL)	Simpson	Wittman
Moore (UT)	Smith (MO)	Womack
Mullin	Smith (NE)	Wright
Murphy (NC)	Smith (NJ)	Young
Nehls	Smucker	Zeldin

DUCKWORTH—1

Golden

JEFFRIES—1

Lamb

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—3

Sherrill Slotkin Spanberger

NOT VOTING—3

Hastings Salazar Valadao

□ 1750

The CLERK. The tellers agree in their tallies that the total number of votes cast is 427, of which the Honorable NANCY PELOSI of the State of California has received 216, the Honorable KEVIN MCCARTHY of the State of California has received 209, the Honorable TAMMY DUCKWORTH of the State of Illinois has received 1, the Honorable HAKEEM JEFFRIES of the State of New York has received 1.

Therefore, the Honorable NANCY PELOSI of the State of California, having received a majority of the votes cast, is duly elected Speaker of the House of Representatives for the 117th Congress.

The Clerk appoints the following committee to escort the Speaker-elect to the chair:

The gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER);

The gentleman from California (Mr. MCCARTHY);

The gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN);

The gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. SCALISE);

The gentleman from Massachusetts (Ms. CLARK);

The gentlewoman from Wyoming (Ms. CHENEY);

The gentleman from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES);

The gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. EMMER);

The gentleman from California (Mr. AGUILAR);

The gentleman from Alabama (Mr. PALMER);

The gentleman from New York (Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY);

The gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. JOHNSON);

The gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. BEATTY);

The gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. HUDSON);

The gentlewoman from California (Ms. Jacobs);

The gentlewoman from Oklahoma (Mrs. Bice);

And the Members of the California delegation.

The members of the committee from majority and minority leadership will retire from the Chamber to escort the Speaker-elect to the chair.

RECESS

The CLERK. Without objection, the House will stand in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

There was no objection.

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 52 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1718

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Clerk at 5 o'clock and 18 minutes p.m.

SWEARING IN OF SPEAKER

The Sergeant at Arms announced the Speaker-elect of the House of Representatives of the 117th Congress, who was escorted to the chair by the Committee of Escort.

Mr. MCCARTHY. Colleagues, friends, and fellow Americans, it is my honor to welcome you to the first day of the 117th Congress. We are here with the support of our families and the faith of our neighbors to be their voice in Washington.

Since Congress first sat in this room, Americans have always found a way to ensure that their needs were top of the mind. In fact, when Abraham Lincoln served here, Members of Congress only had small desks on the House floor to store their work. One of those desks now sits in the Cannon Office Building tunnel. As Members traveled back and forth to the Nation's Capitol, they were compelled to carry all of their work with them. There were no filing cabinets and no servers in the cloud or offices. Their desk was their office. Members rarely went anywhere without physically bringing their constituents' concerns with them.

These small desks are a timeless reminder to every American that the House is made to represent you, the people; and that is a responsibility I welcome and embrace every day. Today, however, it is easier than ever to neglect or ignore this responsibility. From social media to special interest groups, to the culture police, there are endless temptations to distract from why we are here and who is truly important.

Sadly, the last Congress suffered from this neglect. In this Chamber 2

years ago, the Speaker spoke of a new dawn for the middle class. But for the next 2 years, the majority was consumed with everything else. During some of the most challenging times for our country, I felt Congress was on the sidelines.

When the need for more pandemic relief was obvious, did we deliver in a timely manner the lifeline America needed?

Or did we say nothing was better than something until politics dictated our actions?

When unrest filled into the cities and communities across the country, did we deliver safety that Americans wanted?

Or did we let calls to defund the police intimidate us from protecting life, liberty, and property?

When Americans relied on essential workers to keep our country moving, did we serve the people's House in a way Americans deserved?

Or did we shrink and reward Members who stayed home, skipped work, and still got paid?

The unfortunate answers to these questions underscore why the last Congress was the least productive Congress in 50 years.

It has been said that a house divided cannot stand. If there are any lessons that Americans have learned in the last 2 years, it is this: a House distracted cannot govern.

I wish I could say that the majority in Congress is committed to changing for the common good and focusing on what really matters, but I am concerned that the early actions are pointing in the wrong direction.

Tomorrow, this majority of the new 117th Congress plans to adopt new rules that would silence our constituents' voices in Congress. Those rules throw away more than 100 years of representation in our Nation's Capitol and effectively kill the key opportunity to amend legislation.

Worse, they would penalize any Member who shares news or views that maybe their allies in the media deem fake. They actually make it an ethics violation, which is usually reserved for such unbecoming conduct as bribery or corruption. Under these rules, all Members are equal, but some are more equal than others. For our constituents, it means freedom of speech is silenced, good ideas are stifled, and dissent is punished.

Why would an American political party use this as your first action in Congress?

Perhaps they feel an urgency to protect their political careers. Given the message that the American people sent to Washington, the grip is slim and the majority is slimmer. Two months ago to this very day, the American people said, Enough. Enough with politicians who dictate what you can say, where you can eat, or whether you can go to church; enough with politicians who ignore the stay-at-home lockdowns they impose on the rest of us; and enough with arrogance and hypocrisy.

Americans are fed up with it, and we Republicans are too. As the party of Lincoln, Republicans understand what it means to carry our constituents' concerns with us at all times. We are a growing, working class coalition of proud Americans who are more energetic, united, and confident than ever before. We believe in the exceptionalism of this Nation and are not afraid to say it. We have listened to our constituents. We heard how things needed to change, and we made a commitment to America to restore our way of life, rebuild the economy, and renew the American Dream.

That is what we campaigned on. That is what we offered in every district. And if the voices of the people matter, that is how we plan to govern.

The response from the American people to our commitment was resounding. Even though we were outspent in district by district, no Republican incumbent was defeated—none. All across this country, voters endorsed common sense, not conflict. It was a referendum against a radical agenda to defund the police and punish hard work. It was a wake-up call.

The question I ask of this Congress is: Were we listening?

As we enter the new Congress, I ask every Member to step out of your office, go to the Cannon Office Building tunnel, look at that small desk, and ask yourself: What is in your desk?

Here is what is in mine: As the son of a fireman, I know how our police officers and first responders put everything on the line to keep us safe. I will never, never, never vote to defund them.

Can we make that same commitment to America?

As a former small business owner, I understand how tough things can be even in the best of times. As we battle the coronavirus, our small businesses are battling lockdowns that are destroying livelihoods and making it impossible to beat the odds. So I will not hike their taxes.

Can we make that same commitment to America?

As a fourth-generation Central Valley Member from California, I represent farmers and oil field workers who rise at the dawn to go to work; who pray to God; and who raise the next generation of good, decent citizens. I will respect their individuality and their freedom, and I will not forget them.

Can we keep that commitment to America?

No more misplaced priorities. The American people deserve better. America is worth fighting for. Americans' rights are worth fighting for. Their dreams are worth fighting for; their voices are worth fighting for; and, most importantly, their voices are worth being heard on this floor.

During the darkest days of the Civil War, when this Nation was literally burning with division, Abraham Lincoln advised us to strive "to maintain